

REMARKS

I. Introduction

With the cancellation herein without prejudice of claims 29 to 35, 38, and 39, claims 20, 21, and 26 to 28 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Allowed Claims

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 20, 21, 28, and 28 are allowed.

The Examiner will note that claim 26 has been amended herein without prejudice to depend from claim 20. As such, claim 26 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Regarding the rejections raised under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103, as indicated above, claims 29 to 35, 38, and 39 have been canceled herein without prejudice, and claim 26 has been amended herein without prejudice to depend from claim 20, which was indicated to be allowed. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that all rejections raised under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 are moot, and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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